Joe Loree 2159 Acton St Berkeley CA 94702

Sep 1st 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Please do not allow the biggest service providers to dismantle the 1996 Telecommunications Act in order to serve their anti-competitive interests. I have been waiting months for a smaller carrier, Sonic.net, to complete the fiber-optic network that is supposed to serve my area, only to hear that USTelecom is lobbying to make it harder for them to do that. Customer satisfaction ratings in my area make it clear that Sonic.net is a far better choice as a service provider, providing better service at a lower cost. That's what competition is all about! Don't let a few giants continue to dominate the industry - I've been dealing with them for years and can say from personal experience that they only stay in business because they have little competition, certainly not because of love from their customers.

I work out of a home office for a small but global company. Reliable broadband is essential to my work. I have left Comcast for unreliable performance and am ready to dump ATT for their high prices and slow speeds. Please don't let the smaller players like Sonic.net get steamrolled by these uncaring behemoths. Our free-market system is supposed reward those who perform the best, not the ones who lobby the hardest.

Joe Loree